

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for distributing a viscous liquid over a surface of a substrate, comprising the steps:

- placing a substrate essentially horizontal on a support₁
- applying a viscous liquid onto a surface of said substrate₁
- rotating the substrate to distribute the liquid radially outwards₁ and
- conditioning the liquid on the substrate thermally, to influence its viscosity

locally in a specific way by creating a locally selective temperature gradient;

said thermal conditioning being effected by a thermal source of heat or cold placed above the surface of the substrate and directing a stream of heated or cooled gas to the substrate.

2. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the thermal conditioning is being effected by a thermal source of heat or cold placed above the surface of the substrate₁.

3. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the thermal conditioning is being effected by a stream of heated or cooled gas.

4. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the thermal conditioning is being effected by a source of electromagnetic radiation.

5. (original) A method according to claim 4, wherein the source of radiation is a lamp with essentially visible spectra or an IR radiator.

6. (original) A method according to claim 2, wherein the thermal source comprises at least two sub sources.

7. (original) A method according to claim 6, wherein the sub-sources are directed

to different positions with regard to the radius on the substrate.

8. (withdrawn) ~~Apparatus for thermal conditioning a liquid on a rotating substrate~~
~~comprising:~~ A method according to claim 1, wherein said substrate is supported on a
rotatable support, with dispensing means for a said liquid to be distributed on provided
above the substrate surface and fastening means for at least one thermal source placed
above the substrate.

9. (withdrawn) ~~Apparatus~~ A method according to claim 8, wherein the fastening
means comprise a cover, extending over at least a part of the support.

10. (withdrawn) ~~Apparatus~~ A method according to claim 8, wherein the fastening
means ~~is construed as~~ comprise an arm, extending over at least a portion of the
support.

11. (withdrawn) ~~Apparatus~~ A method according to claim 8, wherein the thermal
source comprises one of at least a source of radiation, a lamp, an IR radiator, a stream
of hot or cool gas.

12. (withdrawn) ~~Apparatus~~ A method according to claim 8, wherein the
dispensing means are mechanically affixed to the fastening means.

13. (withdrawn) ~~Apparatus~~ A method according to claim 8, wherein the fastening
means are movable with respect to substrate and support in order to remove the arm at
least during loading and unloading of the substrate.

14. (currently amended) A method for distributing a viscous liquid over a surface
of a substrate, comprising the steps:

- rotating the substrate on an essentially horizontal support, and
- conditioning the substrate thermally, locally specific by creating a locally
selective temperature gradient, wherein said thermal conditioning is effected by a
thermal source of heat or cold placed above the surface of the substrate and directing a

stream of heated or cooled gas to the substrate,

- applying a liquid onto a surface of said substrate, and
- rotating the substrate such that the liquid is being radially distributed according to a desired distribution.